



ANNUAL REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the BOROUGH OF

SAINT IVES (HUNTS) FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1942.

[illegible]

TO: -

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF SAINT IVES (HUNTS).

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you this report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Borough. The report is in a shortened form and without the tables.

The essential features of the Report have been maintained as far as possible, and only new matters affecting Public Health undertaken during the year have been included therein.

I am.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant

W. R. Grove.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health.

W. R. GROVE, MD., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector.

G.G.YEANDLE, Member of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

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GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	2,326 acres.
Estimated Population (mid. 1942)	2,115
Rateable Value	£16,068
Value of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£63
Number of Inhabited	houses (approximately)				891

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births	Total	M	F	
(legitimate)	59	30	29	Birth-rate per 1000 of the
(illegitimate)	6	5	1	estimated resident
				population 20.9
Still-births	0	0	0	
Deaths	34	17	17	Death-rate per 1000 of the
				estimated resident
				population. 10.9

Deaths from Puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List)

				Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	...	...	0		
No. 30 other Puerperal causes	...	...	0		
Total	...	...	0		0
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:-					46.1 per 1000
All infants per 1000 live births	3	M	F		
Legitimate infants per 1000 live births	3	2	1		
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.	0	0	0		
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	4
" " measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
" " whoopingcough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
" " diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	0

As a comparison the Birth-rate and Death-rate for England and Wales during 1942 was:

Birth-rate	...	...	...	...	15.8
Death-rate	...	...	...	...	11.6
Deaths under one year per 1000 births was	...	...	...	...	49

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There has been no change in the Laboratory facilities, Ambulances, Nursing in the Home and the Isolation Hospital all of which are working satisfactorily.

SANITARY CONDITIONS.

1. (1) WATER:- The works in progress for increasing the source of supply not having been completed during the year, the Chesterton and St. Ives Water Board were unable to take over the East Hunts Water Company so that the Borough supply which is obtained in bulk remained the same, the shortage was not so acute as in previous years and for this reason, it was unnecessary to impose drastic restrictions.
The treatment of the water which is by Chlorination and de-chlorination has been satisfactory as proved by the quality of the samples taken 57 analyses having been made and all reports indicated that the quality of the water was up to the standard required for a public supply, in addition to the samples taken in the Area of the Borough, the East Hunts Water Company have taken samples for analyses at the source of supply which have also been satisfactory.
The total consumption for the year shows a little increase on the previous year.
- (2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. No alterations or extensions to the existing system were carried out during the year. Normal maintainance and repairs only being undertaken, further extension of the system will undoubtedly have to be considered after the war when supplies of labour and materials become normal.
2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. Owing to the particularly dry weather during the year, no flooding of any account was experienced. The water level in the River Great Ouse which is controlled by gates varied little. No improvement works were carried out, and maintainance repairs were of a very minor character. The River Great Ouse Catchment Board are the controlling Authority.
3. (1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. No alterations in the system have been made during the year, and no conversion from pail to water closets.
- (2) PUBLIC CLEANSING. As in previous years the collection of refuse is made under contract and has worked satisfactory - no complaints having been received. The same contractors are responsible for the collection of salvage, one day per week being specially set aside for this work, the results have been satisfactory both in the quantity and value of the materials collected. The Council entered for the National Competition organised by the Waste Paper Recovery Association early in the year. The drive for paper was extremely successful and resulted in the Council obtaining the third prize for £50 in their respective group. Under the conditions of the competition the prize money was allocated to various Charities.
The Salvage Scheme in addition to providing many of those materials so essential for munitions was carried out without any financial burden on the Borough and actually resulted in a profit.
4. SHOPS AND OFFICES. No complaints were made and no infringements found in shops and offices during the year.
5. CAMPING SITES. No applications for camping sites in the Borough were received and no area was licensed.
6. SMOKE ABATEMENT. There have been no complaints of smoke nuisance from any premises during the year. No nuisances were observed which necessitated action being taken.

7. SWIMMING BATH POOL. No alterations to the Open Air Swimming Pool which is under the control of the Council have been made during the year; before opening the season the bath is pumped clear and cleansed. It is so constructed that the inlet is open to the main river and the water flows continually through the baths to a backwater. Notwithstanding the unfavourable season, the attendances were extremely good and it is evident that the facilities are appreciated.
8. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. One complaint was received but no trace could be found on investigation. Disinfection was carried out as a precaution and no further complaints were received.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-
- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 132 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 147 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | 17 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 25 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 0 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 43 |
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices:-
- | | |
|--|----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers | 36 |
|--|----|
3. Action under Statutory powers during the year:-
- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936: | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices | |
| (a) by Owners | 0 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of Owners | 0 |
| (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:- | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which defects were remedied after service of formal notices | |
| (a) by Owners | 0 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of Owners. | 0 |
| (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:- | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 0 |
| (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936:- | |
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 0 |

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room have been rendered fit ... 0
4. Housing Act, 1939 - Part IV - Overcrowding:-
- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... 2
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 4
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 10
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 1
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 1
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 8
- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... 0
- (e) Owing to evacuation, and war conditions in general, overcrowding of a temporary nature takes place from time to time, but is not of a serious nature.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) MILK SUPPLY. The number of Cowsheds and Dairies in the district is 9. In addition to the Milk produced and retailed in the Borough a considerable quantity of milk consumed is produced in the St. Ives Rural District.
- (b) MEAT. Owing to the Centralization of the Slaughtering of Animals no private Slaughterhouses have been used for this purpose. The Slaughterhouse which is owned by the Borough is still in the occupation of the Ministry of Food and supervision of all meat inspection is carried out under the control of the County Council. Routine inspection of tinned and other foodstuffs have been carried on during the year, the principal items found unfit for human consumption have been tinned meats, which have been destroyed.
- (c) BAKEHOUSES. The registered bakehouses in the Borough remain the same (three), and these premises have been maintained in a satisfactory condition.
- (d) FACTORIES. No written notices were served on occupiers of factories during the year, the premises having been maintained satisfactorily.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There were notifications of the following:-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	4
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	3
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	0

Immunization against Diphtheria during 1941 :-

Completion of course, children under 5	...	71
" " " " over 5	...	
and under 15	...	29

The children under 5 were treated at the Clinic, but in addition a certain number in both classes have been immunized privately.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age period			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pul		Pulmonary		Non-Pul	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	...	...	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
20	...	...	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	...	...	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
45	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
and upwards			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals			1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0